

CLAIMS

What is claimed for this invention is:

1. (Canceled) An ant-resistant food container that provides a physical barrier and a sticky polymer ant-trap between any surface upon which the ant-resistant food container rests and food in the ant-resistant food container,

the ant-resistant food container comprised of a food surface support, a surrounding ant barrier, and a food surface,

the food surface support possessing a lower surface that rests evenly on a flat surface, the food surface support rising from the flat surface and connected to the surrounding ant barrier,

the surrounding ant barrier completely encircling the food service support such that the any insect climbing from the food surface support lower surface up the side of the food surface support must walk across the surrounding ant barrier on its way to the food surface,

the surrounding ant barrier comprised of a physical barrier and a sticky polymer trap,

the sticky polymer trap comprised of any semi-strong adhesive that can hold a typical crawling insect that encounters it, the sticky polymer trap using no insecticides, man-made or natural,

the food surface capable of holding food while the upper surface is supported by the food surface support .

2. (Canceled) The ant-resistant food container of Claim 1, where the food surface is a bowl, the bowl possessing a circular rim, the food surface support is a pedestal, the surrounding ant barrier is a circumferential recess under the rim of the bowl, and the bowl, pedestal, and surrounding ant barrier are detachable from each other for washing.

3. (Canceled) The ant-resistant food container of claim 1 where the food surface is a tray, the tray is flat with a raised rim, the food surface support is the underside of the tray, and the surrounding ant barrier is a recess under the raised rim of the tray containing the sticky polymer trap.

4. (New) An ant-resistant food container that provides a physical barrier and a sticky polymer, ant-repelling ant-trap between any surface upon which the ant-resistant food container rests and food in the ant-resistant food container,

the ant-resistant food container comprised of a food surface support, a surrounding ant barrier, and a food surface,

the food surface support possessing a lower surface that rests evenly on a flat surface, the food surface support rising from the flat surface and connected to the surrounding ant barrier,

the surrounding ant barrier completely encircling the food surface support such that the any insect climbing from the food surface support lower surface up the side of the food surface support must encounter the surrounding ant barrier on its way to the food surface,

the surrounding ant barrier comprised of a physical barrier and a sticky polymer

trap,

the sticky polymer trap comprised of any semi-strong adhesive that can hold a typical crawling insect that encounters it, the sticky polymer trap using no insecticides, man-made or natural, the sticky polymer trap treated with an off-the-shelf organic repellent,

the sticky polymer trap located underneath a recess of the food surface support to protect the sticky polymer trap from contamination,

the food surface capable of holding food while the upper surface is supported by the food surface support .

5. (New) The ant-resistant food container of Claim 4, where the food surface is a bowl, the bowl possessing a circular rim, the food surface support is a pedestal, the sticky polymer trap is located in a circumferential recess under the rim of the bowl, and the bowl, and pedestal are detachable from each other for washing.

6. (New) The ant-resistant food container of claim 4 where the food surface is a tray, the tray is flat with a raised rim, the food surface support is the underside of the tray, and the sticky polymer trap is located in a recess under the raised rim of the tray.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this case, please direct any inquiries to Steven Webb at (760)635-7530, Fax (760)635-7531.

Respectfully submitted,
Law Offices of Steven W. Webb

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven W. Webb', with a stylized, cursive script.

Steven W. Webb
Reg. No. 43,246

Law Offices of Steven W. Webb
655 Second Street
Encinitas, CA 92024